

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06099

NESCO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE ARTICLES ON
UNESCO AND ISRAELI ISSUES

1. DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO SERIES OF TWOLONG
ARTICLES ON UNESCO IN MARCH 8 - 9 AND MARCH 10 ISSUES
OF INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE. ARTICLES BEING AIR
POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT (IO/UNESCO).

2. SECOND ARTICLE ENTITLED, "UNESCO: PROGRAMS NOW IN
SEARCH OF FUNDS," GOES INTO DETAILS OF CONTROVERSY RE-
SULTING FROM 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE VOTES REJECTING
ISRAELI APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO UNESCO'S EUROPEAN
REGIONAL ACTIVITY GROUP AND SANCTIONING OF ISRAELI
EXCAVATIONS IN JERUSALEM.

3. MOST NOTABLY UNESCO'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL
FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND CULTURE (HOGGART, UK)
IS CITED AS INDICATING THAT LAST OF CONFIDENTIAL RE-
PORTS BY BELGIAN EXPERT, RAYMOND LEMAIRE, "SHOWS THAT
ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN JERUSALEM ARE NOT BEING HARMED."

4. ARTICLE FURTHER REPORTS SECRETARIAT SOURCES SPECU-
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LATIONS AS TO LIMITED RANGE OF "SYMBOLIC" ACTIONS THAT

COULD BE UNDERTAKEN AT MAY SESSION OF UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD THAT WOULD "SATISFY THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL." HOWEVER ARTICLE STATES SECRETARIAT AWARE THAT IN ADDITION TO CORRECTIVE "CONCRETE STEPS" TO SATISFY US CONGRESS, "THESE POSSIBILITIES MUST BE ACCEPTED BY ISRAEL AS WELL AND BECAUSE OF HURT FEELINGS AND PROTOCOL PROBLEMS (SIC) FEW SEEM TO BELIEVE IN SUCH A RECONCILIATION SOON."

5. FIRST ARTICLE IS WELL-RESEARCHED AND BALANCED REPORT ON BOTH THE BUREAUCRATIC SHORTCOMINGS AND CONSIDERABLE PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION, ALTHOUGH SCIENCE SECTOR ACTIVITIES LARGELY OVERSHADOWED IN FOCUS ON LITERACY, EDUCATION, AND MONUMENTS PRESERVATION PROGRAMS.

6. COMMENT: IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH PERMDEL HOGGART'S REMARKS HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT WITH GENERAL ASSESSMENT ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN IHT ARTICLE (PARA 3 ABOVE). APPARENTLY DG M'BOW NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER TO ISSUE A WHITE PAPER ON EXCAVATIONS ISSUE BASED ON CONFIDENTIAL LE MAIRE REPORTS.
RUSH

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